



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. 68603.489CN2)

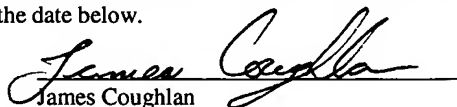
In re Application of: Abraham et al.)
Serial No. 10/615,623)
Filing Date: July 8, 2003)
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit: 1632

For: CHEMICAL CLEANING OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below.

Date: 11-06-03


James Coughlan

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicants submit herewith the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 for filing in the above-referenced application. The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/450,577 which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/853,372. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action, therefore no fee is believed to be due.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made, or that no better or other relevant art exists. The submission of this statement does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material to the patentability of the invention, or that the listed documents are prior art. Applicants reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application. If it should be determined that any of the listed documents constitute prior art under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office relevant facts and law regarding the significance of such documents to the patentability of the claimed invention.

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/615,623
Information Disclosure Statement
Page Two

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return copies of the enclosed form PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office communication.

Please also charge any fees that might be due in connection with this matter to Deposit Account No. 08-0219. If there are any questions, please call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 6, 2003
HALE AND DORR LLP
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE IN AN APPLICATION

Docket Number
68603.489CN2

Application Number
10/615,623

Applicant
Abraham et al.

Filing Date
July 8, 2003

Group Art Unit
1632

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet

1

OF

1

U.S. Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,329,572	Jul 4, 1967	Malgouzou			
	3,551,560	Dec 29, 1970	Thiele			
	5,007,934	Apr 16, 1991	Stone			
	5,028,695	Jul 2, 1991	Eckmayer			
	5,263,984	Nov 23, 1993	Li et al.			
	5,460,962	Oct 24, 1995	Kemp			
	5,523,291	Jun 4, 1996	Ernst et al.			
	5,993,844	Nov 30, 1999	Abraham et al.			
	6,206,931	Mar 27, 2001	Cook et al.			
	6,599,690	Jul 29, 2003	Abraham et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	DE 1,694,509	June 1971	Germany				X
	EP 0564786 A2	Oct 13, 1993	Europe				
	WO 95/28183	Oct 26, 1995	PCT				
	WO 98/49969	Nov 12, 1998	PCT				

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A1	Bodnar, E. et al., Thorac. Cardiovascular Surg., 34:82-85 (1986)
	A2	Courtman et al., J. of Biomedical Research, 28:655-666 (1994)
	A3	Wilson, G.J. et al., Ann. Thorac. Surg., 60:5353-5358 (1995)
	A3	
	A4	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609: Draw Line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy with next communication to applicant.



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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-identified patent application are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages);
2. Form PTO-1449 listing 17 references;
3. Copies of cited references;
4. Certificate of First Class Mailing; and
5. Return Postcard.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this submission. However, please charge any fees that might be due or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

If there are any questions, please call the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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